

PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 13, 2012

A public hearing of the Council of the County of Kaua'i was called to order by Dickie Chang, Chair, Economic Development and Renewable Energy Strategies Committee, on Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at 2:38 p.m. at the Council Chambers, Historic County Building, 4396 Rice Street, Suite 201, Līhu'e, Kaua'i, and the presence of the following was noted:

Honorable Tim Bynum
Honorable Dickie Chang
Honorable KipuKai Kuali'i
Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Honorable Mel Rapozo
Honorable JoAnn A. Yukimura
Honorable Jay Furfaro, Committee Chair

The Clerk read the notice of the public hearing on the following:

"BILL NO. 2436 – A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 16 AND CHAPTER 17 OF THE KAUAI COUNTY CODE 1987, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS,"

which was passed on first reading and ordered to print by the Council of the County of Kaua'i on May 23, 2012, and published in *The Garden Island* newspaper on May 30, 2012.

The following communication was received for the record:

1. Carl Imparato, dated June 13, 2012

The hearing proceeded as follows:

CARL IMPARATO: Aloha, Councilmembers. My name is Carl Imparato. I am here testifying as to my very strong disagreement with the provisions of this bill that would provide free electricity from the County to owners of electric vehicles.

I have no disagreement with allowing public use of the County's electric vehicle charging facilities provided that public users are charged for both: 1) the full cost of the electricity; and 2) the full cost of the purchase, operation, and maintenance of the charging facility. I believe it is simply wrong for the County, whether it is through general funds, or grants, or whatever, to provide free electricity to the select few people or businesses that own electric vehicles when that cost is in the end borne by other residents and taxpayers.

To put some numbers on this, just put together one (1) example, let us assume there is someone who drives to work daily from Hanalei to Līhu'e. A daily roundtrip mileage is sixty-two (62) miles and because the person can use a vehicle for all sorts of other purposes, let us conservatively just say another eight (8) miles per day to account for errands and weekend use of the vehicle, and pleasure use. That kind of person would drive seventy (70) miles per week day and let us say that is the person that comes and uses the County's charging station for free fuel. So at

seventy (70) miles per week day, and thirty-four kilowatt hours (34 kWh) per one hundred (100) miles, which is in the day, that equals 23.8 kWh per week day. At KIUC's current rate of 52.2 cents per kWh, that is a daily subsidy just for the electricity of \$12.42. For the remaining work days in this year, that would be a subsidy of over \$1,600.00. That gift of \$1,600.00 from taxpayers is just for the fuel, it does not include any of the capital operating or maintenance cost associated with the charging facility. Further, the more the electric vehicle owner drives, the more free energy the owner consumes, the bigger is the subsidy from other residents and businesses.

There are a lot of other scenarios you can concoct to less usage and more usage, and in fact use the residential rate for electricity not the County's rate for electricity, I do not know what that is. In the end, I believe it is simply wrong for the County to give free electricity to anyone. It is wrong whether it is for six (6) months in 2012, or for one (1) day. It is wrong whether it is \$1,600.00 or \$1.00. I do not believe there is ever a time when some residents of Kaua'i should be paying the fuel bill for other people's cars. But of course the County's proposed giveaway is particularly on market at this time when the County should be reigning in its costs rather than giving free fuel to a privileged few.

So I ask that you amend the bill in three (3) places. First of all proposed Section 17.2A, should be amended so that the user fee takes effect on passage of the bill, not on January 1, 2013. No free electricity to anyone starting on day one (1).

EDDIE TOPENIO, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Three (3) minutes, Committee Chair.

Mr. Chang: Go ahead, Mr. Imparato.

Mr. Imparato: Thank you.

Proposed Section 17-22B, should be amended to provide a formula for the user fee rather than a fixed rate. A formula fully compensates the County for its costs. The user fee should not be a fixed fee as the cost of electricity certainly rises or goes down over time. So the question is does the County Code having to be amended every time KIUC's rates change? The user fee should not be an hourly fee, as different electric vehicles will consume electricity at different rates using more or less electricity, which results in undercharging or overcharging different customers. And so I would propose language to the effect that the user should be charged based on kWh consumed. The fee shall be the average kWh rate charged by KIUC in the preceding month, plus an adder to compensate the County for fixed cost operations and maintenance.

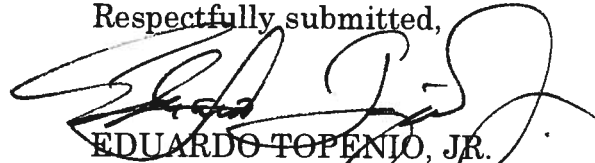
And lastly of course if those changes are made then the findings and purpose of the bill need to be refined to reflect the above.

So in conclusion, I just have two (2) points: 1) if members of the public are to be allowed to use the County's electric vehicle charging facility, they should pay full freight, they should be charge a rate that is based on kWh consumed, based on the then current price of electricity, and it includes an adder that recovers the County's full cost for operating the charging station; 2) those of us who do not own electric vehicles should not be required to subsidize people or businesses that do own electric vehicles. I am not asking for a subsidy because I drive a 30 mpg vehicle instead of a 15 mpg SUV, and I think the same holds here for electric vehicles. So I ask that you modify the bill to eliminate a giveaway that benefits a privilege few

owners of electric vehicles at the expense of all other taxpayers. I thank you for considering these concerns. I have this testimony in writing.

There being no further testimony on this matter, the public hearing adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



EDUARDO TOPENIO, JR.
Administrative Assistant

/il

